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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No. : 10/517,531 Confirmation No. 7062  
Applicant(s) : Hans Andrea SCHULER et al.  
TC/A.U. : 3652  
  
Docket No. : R.310501  
Customer No. : 02119

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**SUBMISSION OF PRIOR ART**

Sir:

The undersigned hereby requests that the prior art cited on the attached form PTO/SB/08a be printed on the bibliographic page of any patent issuing from this application.

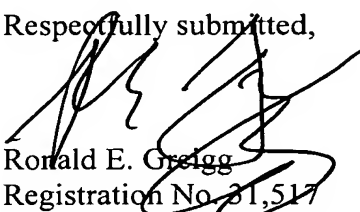
The prior art listed on the attached form PTO/SB/08a is prior art which was cited in a Search Report for the International Application which ultimately translated under 35 U.S.C. 371 into this U.S. application.

Accordingly, this prior art should have come to the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office and the examiner by way of the PCT file, and should have already been considered by the examiner. This prior art is being placed on a form PTO/SB/08a so that it will gain publication on the bibliographic page of the U.S. patent.

In the event that the Patent and Trademark Office has not already obtained copies from WIPO, copies of this prior art are enclosed for the examiner's convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 12, 2005

  
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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				• <b>Complete if Known</b>	
				Application Number	10/517,531
				Filing Date	December 13, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Hans Andrea SCHULER et al.
				Art Unit	3652
				Examiner Name	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	R.310501

[illegible][illegible]

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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